

**From:** Lamaan Whyte  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft

Hi,

Can I stick my two cents in regarding the Microsoft cases? I'm a business consultant advising people with home-based Internet businesses. My clients are all over the world - mainly in the USA, but also from many other countries. For these people, the ideal operating system is either Windows 95 or Windows 98 - both of which have been abandoned by Microsoft, and both of which need to be returned onto the market.

At issue is this: home-based Internet businesses are the fastest growing sector of the business world in terms of numbers, rising from almost zero ten years ago to very many millions today. Nobody knows exactly how many there are, but my estimate is around 20-50 million now, and maybe 200-500 million within a few years.

To really flourish, this business sector needs single, simple operating system that accepts java (including javascript). Win9x is ideal. It has the most software, including all the relevant tools; it is well understood by the technical people who provide support; and it contains all the features needed, and none of the unwanted features that Microsoft seems to love so much.

Recently, Microsoft withdrew the Win9x product range, with the result that already a market has emerged in both old (legitimate) copies of the range, and new (pirate) copies. I regard it most unsatisfactory that I am compelled to inform newcomers to the field that, if they wish to succeed in their new venture, they must seek first out a Win9x copy, pirate if necessary, because Microsoft will not sell it to them.

I ask you to seek that a condition be placed upon Microsoft that they resume supply and support of either (preferably both) Win95 and Win98. I am told for networking reasons that Win NT should be included in this list, but this exceeds my expertise.

With best wishes,

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